### THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

1771

Examiner

Elizabeth M. Cole

Serial No.

09 831,926

Filed

May 15, 2001 Mikio Inoue

Inventors

Takeji Nakae

Title

POROUS CONDUCTIVE

SHEET AND METHOD FOR

PRODUCING THE SAME

Docket: 1182-01

Confirmation No.: 2193

Dated: February 27, 2003

#### <u>AMENDMENT</u>

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

GROUP TO

In response to the Official Action dated September 26, 2002, Applicants amend as follows:

### Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made to the Specification

# On page 3, please replace the second paragraph with the following:

It is demanded to develop a current collector that is not only good in the function of collecting the electric current and in the function of allowing the materials participating in the electrode reaction to be diffused and permeate, but also unlikely to be damaged in the current collector production process and in the process till-until the current collector is installed in the cell, i.e., good in handling convenience, and also low in electric resistance. It is also desired that such a current collector can be produced at a low cost.

# On page 5, please replace the first paragraph with the following:

Expanded graphite particles per se can be highly deformed. This nature can be expressed by a word, flexibility. This flexibility can be observed as the form adaptability of the expanded graphite particles to another body that exists adjacently adjacent to the expanded graphite particles.

Attorney Docket No.: 1182-01

In Complete In Complete

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR §1.9 and §1.27 is enclosed.

x No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)

(Col. 2) (Col. 3)

SMALL ENTITY

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PRE- VIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL.	*18	-	** 42 =	0
INDEP.	* 2	_	*** 2 =	0

	ADD'L
RATE	FEE
x 9=	S
x42=	S
140	S

RATE	ADD'I. FEE
x18=	s
x84=	S
-280	S

TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE SO

OR

OR

\$0

\* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20,

write "20" in this space.
\*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

	Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1442 in the amount of S A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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- \_ A check in the amount of S is attached.
- <u>x</u> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3405. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - $\underline{x}$  Any filing fees under 37 CFR §1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
  - Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 with the exception of the Issue Fee which we intend to pay by check.

T. Daniel Christenbury Reg. No. 31,750

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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